United Nations ST/IC/2004/19

Secretariat

25 May 2004

Information circular*

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Central Support Services

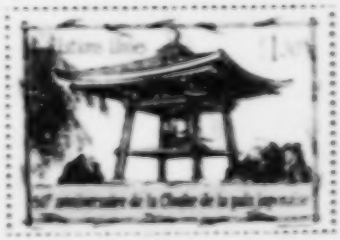
Subject: **First day of issue — 3 June 2004: "50th Anniversary of the Japanese Peace Bell" stamps and souvenir card and Vienna postal stationery**

Commemorative stamps

1. On Thursday, 3 June 2004, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue a set of three stamps to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Japanese Peace Bell.

2. The stamps, designed and engraved by Martin Mörck (Norway), will be issued in denominations of 80¢, F s. 1,30, and €2,10. The full sheets of 20 stamps will be sequentially numbered.

(United States equivalents: F s. 1,30: $1.00; and €2,10: $2.49 cents, subject to exchange-rate fluctuation.)



* Expiration date of the present information circular: 11 June 2004

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Souvenir card

3. A souvenir card also commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Japanese Peace Bell will be issued on 3 June 2004. The card, which was designed by Mr. Robert Stein (United Nations) depicts the new stamps and carries a statement by the Secretary-General. The souvenir card will be available in mint condition as well as in three cancelled varieties. Each card will be affixed with the stamp from the respective UNPA office in New York, Geneva or Vienna and cancelled appropriately.

Stationery

4. In addition, on 3 June 2004, UNPA will issue one new postal card and two new pre-stamped envelopes. The postal card bears a €0,55 denomination and shows a view of the Vienna International Centre. The photograph is credited to Österrich Werbung/Markowitsch. The two pre-stamped envelopes, in denominations of €0,55 and €1,25, also show views of the Centre. These photographs are credited to Alexandre Lyssenko. The postal card and both envelopes were designed by Rorie Katz (United Nations).

(United States equivalents — €0,55 postal card (+ €0,45): $1.19; €0,55 envelope (+ €0,25): 95¢; and €1,25 (+ €0,25): $1.78, subject to exchange-rate fluctuation.)

General information

5. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first-day covers on the UNPA official first day cachets **only**. Members of delegations and the staff can obtain these items on Thursday, 3 June, at the following locations:

(a) The UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

(b) A temporary sales counter located on the east side of the Secretariat lobby, in front of the windows between the cafeteria and the news-stand, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

6. First-day-of-issue cancellations can be obtained at a temporary United States Postal Service substation located outside the United Nations Bookshop in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

7. Information on United Nations stamps can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA.